

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House
(317) 232-9855

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7953

BILL NUMBER: HB 1727

DATE PREPARED: Feb 18, 2001

BILL AMENDED: Feb 14, 2001

SUBJECT: Medicaid and Uninsured Parents Program.

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FUNDS AFFECTED: X

X

X

GENERAL

DEDICATED

FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: (Amended) *Uninsured Parents Program*: This bill establishes the Uninsured Parent's Program (UPP) within the Office of the Secretary of Family and Social Services (FSSA) to provide health insurance coverage to certain uninsured individuals. The bill provides eligibility requirements that an individual must meet in order to enroll in the program. The bill also provides that providers enrolled under the Medicaid program are considered providers for the UPP. The bill also repeals the Hospital Care for the Indigent (HCI) program. It also provides for funding of the Uninsured Parents Program. It also makes changes to the Medicaid Disproportionate Share Hospital payment structure.

Nursing Home Patient Evaluation: In addition, the bill requires each nursing home to annually evaluate each patient and provide the information to the Office of Medicaid Policy and Planning (OMPP) and requires OMPP to review evaluations and, if OMPP determines that an individual's needs can be met in a setting other than a nursing home, inform the individual of that determination and the services that are available to allow the individual to reside in a non-nursing home setting.

Medicaid Reimbursement Rates: The bill provides that OMPP may not increase the base amount used for calculation of reimbursement rates for inpatient and outpatient hospital services over the base amount in effect on January 1, 2001.

Medicaid Care Provided by Local Units: The bill also requires each state department and agency and each local governmental unit to cooperate with OMPP who shall conduct a study to examine means by which to cover Medicaid-eligible care provided by the local units with state or local funding.

Temporary Admission to Nursing Homes: This bill also repeals certain statutes allowing the temporary admission of an Indiana resident to a nursing home without completing a preadmission screening.

Effective Date: July 1, 2000 (retroactive); January 1, 2001 (retroactive); July 1, 2001; January 1, 2002; June 30, 2002; July 1, 2002; July 1, 2003.

Explanation of State Expenditures: (Revised) *Uninsured Parents Program:* This bill establishes the Uninsured Parent's Program (UPP) to provide health care to an anticipated 43,000 parents with incomes between 26% and 100% of the federal poverty level. (The eligibility requirements provided in the bill currently represent incomes ranging from \$4,433 to \$17,050 for a family of four.) The benefits included in the UPP program are inpatient and outpatient hospital services, physicians' services, laboratory and x-ray services, and emergency medical services. No new General Fund expenditures are anticipated. The program would require obtaining federal approval for an 1115 waiver in the Medicaid program. In addition, the program is not an entitlement. Eligibility parameters may be adjusted to reflect the costs of the program, the number of eligible individuals, and the available program resources.

The total expenditures for the UPP program are expected to reach \$110.5 M annually by FY 2004. The program is not an entitlement program, but would be limited by the availability of funding. The bill provides for funding of the UPP program by (1) eliminating the Hospital Care for the Indigent (HCI) program, but devoting the proceeds of the HCI property tax levy to the UPP program; and (2) taking advantage of increased federal allowance for reimbursement under the Municipal Hospital Shortfall program. These are funds that would under current programs be designated for hospitals. No new General Fund expenditures are anticipated.

The HCI program that currently provides emergency medical services for the indigent population is eliminated by the bill. The HCI property tax levy that currently funds HCI add-on payments is, instead, redirected to the State UPP Fund for use in funding the UPP program. (HCI dollars currently funding the regular Medicaid program and the Medicaid Disproportionate Share Hospital program are to remain unchanged.) A preliminary estimate of the HCI levy available for matching federal funds for the UPP program (with the levy reductions provided in the bill) is about \$19.9 M annually.

The second source of funds available for the UPP program are made available from a recent change in federal regulations that increase the upper payment limit to hospitals in the Municipal Hospital Shortfall program by 50%. The additional amounts are to be forwarded to the State UPP Fund through intergovernmental transfers and are anticipated to amount to about \$23.9 M annually.

The total amount available from the two sources, about \$43.8 M, can be used as the state match for expenditures in the UPP program. Based on a federal financial participation rate of about 62%, total funds available for expenditure in the UPP program are about \$115.3 M annually.

Annual growth in national health expenditures for hospital care and physician services is projected by the Health Care Financing Administration to be 5.6% to 5.8% by 2004. The most recent 3-year statewide average assessed value growth quotient for the HCI levy is about 5.1%. There is no anticipated growth in the dollars available from the Municipal Hospital Shortfall program. (Consequently, the aggregate annual increase in funds based on funding shares is about 2.4%.) However, according to the bill, program eligibility requirements may be adjusted if needed to reflect costs of the program and the available resources.

The following provisions have the potential for either reducing expenditures in the Medicaid program or increasing federal reimbursement for services currently provided outside of the Medicaid program. The extent of the impact of these provisions is not known at this time.

Nursing Home Patient Evaluation: This bill requires each nursing home to annually evaluate each patient and provide the evaluations to OMPP. OMPP is to determine the most appropriate placement alternative for the patients and inform and counsel patients regarding the placement alternatives that are available and the

most appropriate setting for the individual. To the extent that sufficient alternative settings exist and individuals are able to change to residential alternatives that are less expensive to the state, state Medicaid expenditures may be reduced.

Medicaid Reimbursement Rates: This bill also prohibits rebasing the Medicaid reimbursement rates used for inpatient and outpatient hospital services. These base rates have not been rebased since about 1994. This effectively limits those reimbursement rates to be based on current levels.

Medicaid Care Provided by Local Units: The bill also requires all state agencies and local units of government to cooperate with OMPP in a study to examine means by which to cover services under the Medicaid program that are currently being provided to Medicaid-eligible individuals with so as to collect federal reimbursement. To the extent that the study can lead to the future coverage of services already provided with state or local dollars to Medicaid-eligible individuals, additional federal reimbursement dollars may be captured.

Temporary Admission to Nursing Homes: The bill also repeals a provision in statute that permits the temporary placement of individuals in nursing homes upon discharge from a hospital without going through the Pre-Admission Screening (PAS) process. To the extent that requiring all individuals to have a PAS evaluation before admission into a nursing home results in individuals receiving more appropriate non-nursing home placements may reduce nursing home expenditures in the Medicaid program.

Explanation of State Revenues: See Explanation of State Expenditures, above, regarding federal financial participation in the Medicaid program.

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues: See Explanation of State Expenditures, above.

State Agencies Affected: Family and Social Services Administration.

Local Agencies Affected: All; Municipal Hospitals.

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